



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
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June 14, 2010

TO: North Carolina Immunization Program (NCIP) Participants

FROM: Beth Rowe-West, R.N., B.S.N., Head
Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: Availability of an Additional Quadrivalent Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine, Menveo®

The purpose of this memo is to announce the availability of an additional quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine, MenACWY-CRM, brand name Menveo®, manufactured by Novartis. Menveo® was licensed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for all persons aged 11 through 55 years of age. Effective immediately, NCIP providers may choose to order Menveo® for their Vaccines for Children (VFC) eligible patients who are 11 through 18 years of age. The NCIP will continue to offer the meningococcal conjugate vaccine, MCV4, Menactra®, manufactured by Sanofi, for VFC eligible children 2 through 18 years of age. The CPT® code for both Menveo® and Menactra® vaccines is 90734. Menveo® is supplied as a vial containing MenA lyophilized conjugate component and a vial containing MenCYW-135 liquid conjugate component (1 dose after reconstitution). There are five doses (10 vials) per package. The container closures (synthetic rubber stoppers) do not contain latex.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine for all persons aged 11 through 18 years and for persons aged 2 through 55 years who are at increased risk for meningococcal disease. Persons at increased risk for meningococcal disease include: 1) college freshmen living in dormitories, 2) microbiologists who are exposed routinely to isolates of *Neisseria meningitidis*, 3) military recruits, 4) persons who travel to or reside in countries where meningococcal disease is hyperendemic or epidemic, 5) persons who have persistent complement component deficiencies, and 6) persons with anatomic or functional asplenia. MenACWY-CRM or MCV4 may be used in persons aged 11 through 55 years, and are preferred to quadrivalent meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine (MPSV4). Persons aged 2 through 10 years who are recommended to receive a meningococcal vaccine should receive MCV4, and persons aged >55 years should receive MPSV4. The complete text of these recommendations may be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5909a5.htm>

Note: Although both Menactra® and Menveo® vaccines are recommended for patients through 55 years of age, the VFC eligibility range is through 18 years of age. For Menactra®, only patients 2 through 18 years of age who meet one or more of the following VFC criteria may be administered state-supplied vaccine; for Menveo®, only patients 11 through 18 years of age who meet one or more of the following VFC criteria may be administered state-supplied vaccine:

- Medicaid-eligible
- American Indian/Alaskan Native
- Uninsured
- Underinsured*

*A child who has commercial (private) health insurance but the coverage does not include vaccines, a child whose insurance covers only selected vaccines (VFC-eligible for non-covered vaccines only), or a child whose insurance caps vaccine coverage at a certain amount. Once that coverage amount is reached, the child is categorized as underinsured.

The North Carolina Immunization Registry (NCIR) was recently updated to include Menveo®. Menveo® orders shipped from NCIP will be pre-populated in the NCIR with the lot number that is printed on the box. Because there are different lot numbers included in a box of Menveo® which are not currently linked, the lot number on the box is the number Novartis recommends recording on patient records. Providers not using the NCIR should document doses administered on Vaccines Administered Logs (VALs).

Additional questions may be addressed by contacting your regional immunization nurse, or the Immunization Branch Help Desk, at 1-877-873-6247.

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